

**From:** Love, Susan E. (DNREC)

**Sent:** Monday, October 09, 2017 8:52 AM

**Subject:** Coastal Zone Conversion Permit Stakeholder Interview Invitation

Dear Delaware Coastal Zone Act Stakeholder:

Because of your interest, knowledge and expertise, the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) invites you to participate in a stakeholder interview about Delaware's Coastal Zone and development of regulations for Coastal Zone Conversion Permits.

Governor John Carney signed the Coastal Zone Conversion Permit Act, which amends the Delaware Coastal Zone Act, on August 2, 2017. The Act authorizes DNREC to issue permits for construction and operation of new heavy industry uses within the 14 existing sites of heavy industry use within the state's Coastal Zone. It also authorizes DNREC to issue permits for the bulk transfer of products under certain circumstances.

The Coastal Zone Conversion Permit Act directs DNREC to develop and promulgate regulations for the issuance of conversion permits by October 1, 2019. DNREC will convene a Regulatory Advisory Committee to develop – by consensus to the greatest degree possible – the framework and approach to these new regulations. The Advisory Committee will also assist with drafting proposed regulations and ensuring public engagement

To assist in the initial phase of this effort, DNREC has retained the same non-profit who assisted in the development of the original regulations for the Coastal Zone Act, the Consensus Building Institute (CBI). CBI is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization that provides mediation and facilitation services to a range of local, state, national, and international entities and stakeholders.

Before DNREC assembles the Regulatory Advisory Committee, CBI will be conducting separate, **confidential** conversations with key stakeholders, including local government officials, businesses, labor representatives, environmental advocates, and others. To reiterate, these conversations are confidential—CBI will not attribute statements collected in stakeholder conversations to individuals or individual organizations in its final convening report.

These interviews will be used to identify and capture the range of interests, opportunities, concerns, and ideas held by stakeholders about industrial redevelopment in the coastal zone, and to gather advice on how best to design a collaborative process in terms of membership, ground rules, sequencing of issues, and other process design considerations. The outcome of this initial step will be a brief report outlining the key issues, ideas, and concerns expressed by stakeholders regarding the creation of these new regulations and designing the consensus building process. DNREC will then establish the multi-stakeholder Regulatory Advisory Committee to begin the collaborative work.

CBI will be conducting these in-person conversations from **October 23 to Oct 27** in New Castle and Wilmington. Shortly after you receive this email, CBI will reach out to you directly to schedule an interview. If you would like to bring additional representatives from your organization with you to the interview, you are welcome to do so. If they are unable to find a mutually agreeable time that week, CBI can schedule a later phone conversation.

Please feel free to contact me or Julie Herlihy from CBI if you have questions about the process. My contact information is below. Julia can be reached at [jherlihy@cbuilding.org](mailto:jherlihy@cbuilding.org) or 617-844-1137. Julia will be reaching out to you this week to schedule interviews.

Warm Regards,

Susan

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